





result of my conversations with him as well as with Mr. Maxwell, the Government Resident, and Mr. De Windt, a brother-in-law of Rajah Brooke, who was in England at the time of my visit to Borneo, but it would be unsafe to trust my memory as to names and figures. Statistics were promised to me, but have not come to hand at the time that this is written. I can only therefore state that though the coal is good, and was told abundant, the trade is small as yet.

It is worth while mentioning that a parcel of coal-fossils from the Sarawak beds was forwarded to me for inspection. I examined them hastily at Singapore, where I had another book of fossils for comparison. The conclusion of the other came to was that the coal was not tenacious. There were found, however, like those which are found in the Nossabas beds. I believe that I was able to identify a vertebrata and a phytolitha, very closely allied to the same fossils in New South Wales. But one could wish for more satisfactory evidence of connection between the beds. Vertebrata, being a root, has insufficient details for minute identification, and probably a plant or an organism, like a microfossil, would generally serve better. I regret to add that the specimens have since mislaid, and cannot refer to them now. I have no doubt that in due time other specimens will be sent to me; but I regret most of all that I was unable to accept the cordial invitation of the Government to visit and report upon their coal. It would be a most interesting fact if it could be proved that in the Sarawak and in the Borneo coal-mine generally is found a connecting link between the great coal-fields of India and Australia.

We were so long bound to H.M.S. *Pegasus* that we were, so to speak, out of sight of the coal formations. At about 90 miles from Labuan there is a small, very small British settlement called Gurney. The entrance to this may be termed a narrow opening in the hills. The Sydney Heads, is fringed by fine cliffs of the coal formation, very like in appearance to the carbonaceous deposits of New South Wales. This was my nearest point to Kin Balu between 12,000 and 13,000 feet high, the highest known mountain in Borneo. It is not volcanic but granite. It about 40 miles from Gaya. Sir George Love's name is given to it in his account of the summer of 1882. In 1883, that is to say, July 1, 1882 and 1883, that is to say, July 1, 1883, 13 cargoes of Formosa coal arrived at Hongkong amounting to 13,051 tons. In the following year, between the same period (July, 1883, to July, 1884), the quantity was reduced to 9,130 tons. This was a remarkable decline altogether. The coal was sold at a high price, and the Chinese, I am told, was as much surprised as ourselves at finding that it could command a salvo.

In spite of its quality, however, it used to be much in favour at Hongkong. This of course, was due to the fact that it was owned by the Chinese.

The two years previous to the Franco-Chinese war, its price was \$3.40 on an average, or about 17s. 6d. per ton. No other coal could compete with this in point of price, or even come near it. If it had been possible to work it with it must have held its ground. But, either better

coal was to be had, or the foreign powers destroyed the trade.

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It will be seen from the foregoing description that there is a strong family-likeness in all the coal basins of Borneo. At my rate, the enterprize is always on the back of the river, and so it is in Sumatra.

Some geologists have suggested that these rivers are the remains of those formed by

means of which the fossil vegetation, now formed into coal, became drifted down and沉没した。 I

think it is more probable, however, that the ent-

eropis are always on the banks of the rivers, he-

cause these are deep valleys which expose sections of the beds covered over in other localities.

There are many other places in Borneo, from

which roads of coal have been brought from time to time. Several beds can be seen near the river Guti, on the north east of the island. These I did not see, but I quote the authority of Mr. Belot, from the fourth volume of the Journal of the Geological Society: "The mineral resources of the best coal and lignite

readily, leaving a little ferruginous ash. The bed is about 30 thick, and is covered by grey shale, sandstone, and a thin layer of lignite.

North and east of Borneo are the Philippines Islands.

Coal is found in this group in many places from Lanzon in the north to Mindanao in the south; but I am not aware that it has been worked. In Sorsogon, province of Albay, it is said that there are seams from seven to eight inches in thickness, traceable for a distance of four leagues. Similar seams are reported from the provinces bordering the boundary of the province of Bulakan. The coal is found to be recognized by its coal as taking a southern dip under the sea and reappearing in the islands of Samar, Cebu, Negros, and Mindanao. From the fact that sandstones containing fossil nummulites and corals are associated with these outcrops of coal, it is extremely probable that the formation is tertiary and of the same age as the beds of coal and limestone of those of Borneo.

It has also been said that the only indications of coal I have ever seen in the Malay Peninsula were some carbonaceous shales and sandstones in Jellin, in the native state of Se-langore. In the rivers emptying on to the eastern side of the peninsula which I was able to examine, there are small outcrops of limestone and marble which may or may not be carbonaceous. This was in the kingdom of Palembang, and I went towards the coast of the Pekan River of Tengah, by means of boats driven up the side of the hill at the estuary of the confluence. Again, there are mines described by Mr. Oliphant at Whang-shi-kung, on the river Marang.

Near the city of E-1 in Chekiang, already referred to there are important coal mines, described in the "Journal of Geology," for 1886.

"The coal is found in layers 500 ft. apart.

From each of these galleries were cut out 6 ft. wide, following the seam of coal.

The mineral was brought up by windlass and

then the men climbed down the pit by means of a basket at the side of the pit, which was about 6 ft. by 4 ft.

The descent was then easily and safely effected, the men swinging themselves from side to side, and carefully keeping the basket, which was formerly a place of considerable danger, off the head of the miners.

Sickness is the bane of all miners, an' t'is a curse to them all.

It is a curse to them all.

## INTIMATIONS.

PUBLICATION  
Of an Original Story by  
WALTER BESENT.

We are gratified at being able to announce to our Readers that, by special arrangement with the Author, the New Story which Walter Besant has just completed, has been secured for Original Publication in the HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."

The title of the Story is  
H. R. PAULUS:  
His Life, His Greatness, and His Fall.

WALTER BESENT,  
Author of "All Sorts and Conditions of Men," &c., &c.  
THE OPENING INSTALMENT  
appeared in the issue of  
SATURDAY (OCTOBER 13TH),  
of the HONGKONG DAILY PRESS,  
and will be continued  
EVERY SUNDAY,

until completed.

H. R. PAULUS  
may be depended upon to afford a splendid literary treat. Few Novels of modern times can compare with Walter Besant in the ability to write a really good, well conceived, highly constructed, and admirably worked-out story. His writing is full, brilliant style, and careful attention to detail in all that concerns his stories, we have seen volumes which have built up for him a strong and enduring popularity.

GUTTER, PALMER, & CO.  
ESTABLISHED IN 1815.  
ON LONDON, BORDEAUX, CALCUTTA, BOMBAY,  
MADRAS, LAHORE, KURRACHEH, &  
MESSRS. JARDINE, MATHERN & CO.,  
SCHEMSEY & CO.,  
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H. E. REYNELL & CO. in Japan.

Subjoined are some of the items consigned by these well-known Shippers  
SPIRITS,  
COGNAC—The popular "Star" quality and  
COGNAC—The well-known "2 Star" quality,  
WHISKY SCOTCH, in Heart Shaped bottles,  
"specially".  
WHISKY SCOTCH, in Ordinary bottles,  
The "Glenlivet" Whisky in round bottles.  
The "Saxony" bottle Whisky of Napier Johnstone's.

The Celebrated "CARLTON"—11 years old,  
WHISKY IRI TAI selected, very fine.

N.B.—All the above Spirits are of excellent  
quality, and are recommended  
WINES

For Invalids use, PORT & SHERRY—Very  
Superior and reliable, AMERICO, MANZANILLA, & PALE DRY SHERRY distinguished by Blue, Black, and White Seals.

CLARET, via Mouton, Latour, St. Estephe,  
Chateau in Quarts & Pints. Need no recom-  
mendation.

For Price apply to either of the above firms  
marked \* 1516

A SHING,  
PHOTOGRAPHIC  
No. 8, QUEEN'S ROAD,  
Opposite the TELEGRAPH OFFICE,  
HONGKONG.

Hongkong, 2nd July, 1887. : (125)

NOTICE.

HONGKONG AND WHAMPoa DOCK  
COMPANY, LIMITED.

SHIPMasters AND ENGINEERS are  
desirous of having their Agents  
arrive in this Harbour, none of the Company's  
Personnel should be at hand, orders for repairs if  
sent to the Head Office, No. 14, Praya  
Central, will receive prompt attention.

In the event of complaints being found  
necessary, communication with the Undersigned  
is requested, when immediate steps will be taken  
to rectify the cause of dissatisfaction.

D. GILLIES,  
Secretary.

Hongkong, 26th August, 1888. : (125)

The Undersigned have been appointed Sole  
Agents for the Sale of their Goods in  
Hongkong and China by Messrs. D. & E. TERN-  
NENT, Glasgow, and Messrs. DAVID COBBAN &  
SON, Arbroath.

ARNHOLD, KARBERG & CO.

Hongkong, January, 1887. : (125)

WINTER TIME TABLE.

THE KOWLOON FERRY,  
STEAM LAUNCH  
"MORNING STAR"

Runs Daily as Ferry Boat between PEDDAR'S  
WHARF and Tsim-Tsui at the following  
hour—This Time Table will take effect from  
the 17th October, 1887.

WEEK DAYS.

Leaves Leaves Leaves  
Kowloon Hongkong Kowloon Hongkong

6.00 A.M. 7.00 A.M. 6.00 A.M. 7.00 A.M.

8.00 " 9.00 " 8.00 " 9.00 "

9.00 " 10.00 " 9.00 " 10.00 "

9.40 " 10.15 " 10.30 " 10.45 "

10.30 " 12.30 P.M. 11.00 " 12.00 "

12.45 P.M. 2.00 " 1.30 " 2.00 "

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6.30 " 6.45 " 6.30 " 6.45 "

7.00 " 7.15 " 7.00 " 7.15 "

\* There will be no Launch on Monday and  
Friday, on account of coaling.

The above Time Table will be strictly adhered  
to, except under unavoidable circumstances. In  
case of stress of weather, due notice will be  
given of any stoppages.

WOOL LIN YUEN,  
Secretary.

Hongkong, 16th July, 1887. : (125)

FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, OF 157,  
IN HAMBURG.

The Undersigned Agents of the above  
Company, are Prepared to ACCEPT  
RISKS at Current Rates.

POSTAU & CO.,  
Agents.

Hongkong, 17th January, 1887. : (125)

NOTICE.

THE HMAN ON INSURANCE COM-  
PANY, LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE—HONGKONG.

THE HENIX FIRE OFFICE

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